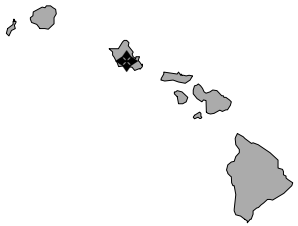
Schofield Barracks NPL

Size: 17,725 acres
Mission: Conduct troop training and operations
HR. Score: 28.90; placed on NPL in August 1990
IAG Status: IAG signed in September 1991
Contaminants: Organic solvents, petroleum/oil/lubricants, and heavy metals
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: $33.5 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): $27.8 million (FY2030)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for All Sites: FY2000



Oahu, Hawaii

Restoration Background

Environmental studies conducted at Schofield Barracks since FY83 have identified 125 sites. Subsequent investigations concluded that 123 sites required no further action. In FY85, the installation detected trichloroethene (TCE) in drinking water wells on site. Schofield Barracks installed an air stripper treatment system in FY86 to remove the TCE from the drinking water.

In FY91, the installation separated sites into four operable units (OUs). OU1 consists of suspected sources of TCE contamination; OU2, of contaminated groundwater; OU4, of the former Schofield Barracks landfill; and OU3, of all other hazardous waste sites identified on the installation.

A Preliminary Assessment and Site Inspection (PA/SI) initiated in FY92 scoped Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) efforts for OUs 1, 2, and 4. For OU2, the installation proposed limiting data collection to support a Remedial Action (RA) wellhead treatment strategy. OU4 was addressed in accordance with EPA guidance on generic remedies for the investigation of CERCLA municipal landfills.

In FY93, RIs for OU1 concluded that those sites did not require further action. PA/SI efforts for OU3 screened 106 sites and recommended no further action for 72. The installation structured the restoration program for OU3 to minimize investigations and to move forward quickly to clean up soil. Removal Actions were completed at seven underground storage tank sites.

In FY94, under the Phase I RIs for OU2, groundwater data were collected from wells near the installation. Studies for OU2 did not show TCE contamination in wells other than installation supply wells. Sampling and analysis plans were developed and approved for OU3 to collect the limited data needed to screen the sites and determine the need for further action. RIs for OU4 concluded that the landfill is a continuing source of TCE and other contamination in groundwater. However, the direction of groundwater flow eliminates the landfill as the source of the TCE that is affecting the installation supply wells.

Schofield Barracks concluded investigative efforts for all sites in FY95. In FY96, the installation held public sessions to solicit interest from the community in forming a Restoration Advisory Board; no interest has been expressed. The Army and EPA completed all Records of Decision (RODs) for all operable units in FY96 and approved RODs for OUs 1 and 3 in FY96.

In FY97, the Army petitioned EPA to delete the installation from the National Priorities List (NPL). EPA responded favorably to the NPL deletion proposal and committed to proceeding to deletion after completion of repairs to the former landfill cap for OU4. EPA, the Hawaii Department of Health, and the Army partnered to expedite approval of the remaining two RODs by February 1997. As required by the OU2 ROD, long-term groundwater monitoring of downgradient municipal wells and the implementation of wellhead treatment, where needed to remove TCE migrating from Schofield Barracks, were initiated in FY97.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The installation completed construction associated with the repair and maintenance action at OU4. EPA approved the RA report for OU4, and Schofield Barracks reached the Construction Complete milestone. Long-term monitoring of groundwater and landfill gas continues. In accordance with the OU2 ROD, the Army has reimbursed Del Monte Fresh Produce (Hawaii), Inc., for capital costs associated with an air-stripping tower treatment facility at Del Monte's Kunia Village. The Army also funds the operations and maintenance for the facility's removal of TCE from the drinking water supply.

The installation continued to work with EPA and the Hawaii Department of Health throughout FY98 to remove the installation from the NPL. It communicates continuously with EPA and the state to ensure that the regulators are provided with all necessary information to support construction completion and NPL deletion. The installation also works with the regulators to concurrently review documentation in the draft stages in order to reduce review time.

Plan of Action

- Request deletion of Schofield Barracks from the NPL in FY99
- Continue monitoring groundwater to track any movement of TCE contamination in FY99
- Continue monitoring methane gas and providing cap maintenance at the landfill in FY99

FY99 Funding by Phase and Relative Risk